

# The Overseas Press

# BULLETIN

WEEKLY PUBLICATION OF THE OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB OF AMERICA  
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February 9, 1957

## OVERSEAS TICKER

### ROME

Trouble and tension in the Middle East and Eastern Europe again are making Rome the cross-roads for newsmen.

Among those coming to or going from the "Eternal City" these days are Bob and Mary Hewitt, *Minneapolis Star and Tribune* and *Des Moines Register and Tribune*, who have been making a six-month swing in the Middle East, both in the Arab states and Israel. They are now waiting for visas for French North Africa. Bob does the writing; his wife takes photographs.

Reynolds Packard, *N.Y. Daily News*, who normally headquarters in Rome, off again for Athens, en route to Cairo. Jim Whitmore, *Time-Life*, and his family have left Rome for his new post at Athens.

The *N.Y. Herald-Tribune's* Barrett McGurn, after a brief respite in Rome, is away again - this time for a series in Poland.

NBC's Bob Hecox back in Rome from Monte Carlo, where he covered the birth of Princess Grace's baby, and CBS' Winston Burdett, who recently returned from Eastern European assignments has left for Tel Aviv.

The AP's Bob Tuckman, from Cyprus and Israel, in Rome honeymooning with his bright-eyed bride.

And talking about the Mid-East's oil, Robert McKinney, editor and publisher of the Santa Fe *New Mexican*, told the American Chamber of Commerce in Milan that "Atomic energy can reduce political and economic pressures on industrialized nations." McKinney, chairman of the Citizens Panel on Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy which reported to the U.S. Congress last year, urged a speed-up in development of nuclear power as a means of lessening the dangers of Western Europe's dependence upon Middle East oil.

AP's Stan Swinton, Mrs. Swinton and their son, Scott, left Naples Jan. 27 aboard the Cristoforo Colombo for New York and his new job as editor of AP World News Service. Frank Brutto



FREEDMAN



LEHRMAN

### Lehrman, Freedman Take George Polk Awards

Two OPCers are recipients of George Polk Memorial Awards for "distinguished achievements in journalism" in 1956, it was announced Wednesday by Dr. Theodore E. Kruglak, Curator of the Awards.

Hal Lehrman, free-lance correspondent, received the ninth annual award for Foreign Reporting. He was chosen for his stories explaining developments in the Middle East which were carried in *The New York Times Sunday Magazine*, *The Reporter* and *Commentary*.

Emanuel R. Freedman, foreign editor of *The New York Times*, received a special award for directing the work of his correspondents.

Another special award was given jointly to Endre Marton, former resident correspondent for the AP in Budapest, and his wife, Ilona Nyilas of the UP. They are the first foreign reporters to receive a George Polk Award.

Other winners of the ninth annual awards are the Columbia Broadcasting System for television reporting; Jack Lotto for national reporting; Phil Santora for metropolitan reporting; Mel Elfin for suburban reporting; and Jack Young for news photography.

The Awards were established by Long Island University's Department of Journalism following Polk's death in 1948. A CBS correspondent, Polk was slain in Greece in 1948 while trying to reach rebel General Markos Vafiados for an interview.

Gold plaques will be presented to the winners at the ninth annual George Polk Memorial Awards Luncheon to be held April 3 in the Hotel Roosevelt.

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### BY-LAW SETS RULES ON ANNUAL ELECTION

Board of Governors' action last week established a new by-law to the OPC Constitution governing the conduct of the Club's annual election of officers.

At the same time, President Wayne Richardson, with the approval of the Board of Governors, appointed the 1957 Nominations Committee to prepare the slate of candidates. The members are Chairman Norwood F. Allman, John de Lorenzi, Elizabeth Fagg, Henry Gellermann, Burnet Hershey, Neil Sullivan and John Wilhelm. Ratification of the names was moved by Vice President Lawrence Blochman.

Under the by-law, the Nominations Committee is no longer limited to naming a single candidate for president. The Committee has the option of naming one or more nominees for the offices of president, secretary and treasurer, and between three and five for the three vice presidencies.

Additional nominations by petition must be supported by forty signatures, and filed within seventeen days after the mailing date of *The Bulletin* which contains the Committee's slate of nominees.

The new by-law provides an equal opportunity for all nominees to air their views and records in an "information sheet." Published by the Club at least three weeks before the election and mailed to all eligible voters, the sheet will contain brief sketches of the nominees' professional backgrounds and Club activities as well as their own statements of policy and principle. Equal space will be allotted for all candidates for each office with only one restriction --- nothing in the statement may reflect on the qualifications of another candidate.

Among other provisions designed to streamline the election procedure are:

Five weeks before the balloting, the president with the approval of the Board of Governors will appoint between seven and eleven non-voting members as judges of the election, charged with conducting the election from the initial preparation of ballots through the final tally.

Voting by mail, a system introduced in the Club's last annual election, will be continued this year with a few differences.

## PEOPLE & PLACES...

January was a busy month for *Esquire* travel editor Richard Joseph: his articles in *Esquire* won the TWA award for the best magazine travel writing for the fifth successive year, Frederick Fell published his new book, *A Letter to the Man Who Killed My Dog*, and he started his own WRCA-TV travel show, "Passport," Sundays from 1:15 to 1:30 p.m.... Seth H. Moseley, II, manager of corporate press relations, General Foods, has been appointed publicity coordinator for special projects for the company... Fred Rosen back from the Caribbean - combination vacation and business trip.

Ralph D. Gardner is surrendering (to any persons or organizations which would give them sentimental care) some duplicates in his collection of Horatio Alger books; they've become valuable over the years... Robert D. Levitt was elected president and a director of California National Productions, Inc., an NBC subsidiary... NBC's Pauline Frederick was named "Radio Woman of the Year" in *Radio-TV Daily's* poll for her job as "anchor man" of the Democratic and Republican Conventions' coverage.

Don Short, veteran magazine writer and travel editor for twenty-seven years on *N.Y. Journal American*, is now director of Puerto Rico Travel News, a new press and writers' service of Puerto Rico's Economic Development Administration; Mel Most is EDA's Director of PR... Burton Benjamin has accepted assignment with CBS as producer of new program series for CBS Public Affairs.

Catherine Gavin won a 1957 Cadillac convertible on the "\$64,000 Question;" she missed the \$8,000 question in the "Who's Who" category... Grace Naismith, *Reader's Digest* wrote the chapter, "Helping the Childless" in the American Medical Ass'n.'s 1957 Book of Health; *Yesterday in Sports* (A.S. Barnes & Co., publishers) also has her story on Dr. James Naismith and the invention of

(Continued on page 7)

### THE OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB Officers and Board

*President:* Wayne Richardson; *Vice Presidents:* Cecil Brown, Ansel E. Talbert, Lawrence G. Blochman; *Secretary:* Will Yolen; *Treasurer:* A. Wilfred May.

*Board of Governors:* John Barkham, Thomas Curran, Emanuel Freedman, Ben Grauer, Ruth Lloyd, John Luter, Kathleen McLaughlin, Will Oursler, Madeline D. Ross, Cornelius Ryan, Thomas P. Whitney, John Wilhelm, Helen Zotos; *Alternates:* Reavis O'Neal, Harold Lavine, J. C. Dine, Elizabeth Fagg.

*Past Presidents:* W. W. Chaplin, Robert Connidine, John Daly, William P. Gray, Burnet Hershey, Frank Kelley, Lucian Kirtland, Louis Lochner, Eugene Lyons, J. Clifford Stark, Lowell Thomas, Wythe Williams (deceased).



Ann Meuer

### BROCHURE ON OPC OUT TO OVERSEAS MEMBERS; DOMESTIC NEXT

Charles Robbins (left), Chairman of the Overseas Members Liaison Committee, examines a new weapon in his drive for more OPCers abroad: An illustrated, sixteen-page rundown on the Club's purpose and activities. The first mailing of the OPC brochure to overseas members on Feb. 1 is to be followed soon by distribution to domestic membership as well as to newspapers, libraries, and journalism schools throughout the U.S. Responsible for the brochure were Public Relations Chairman Murray Lewis (right, above) and his committee: Bill Baldwin, Jr., Roy Battersby, Ralph H. Major, Jr., David Resnick, Lee Jaffe and Lou Weintraub.

### LIFE SHIFTS PERSONNEL

Don Burke, *Life*'s chief correspondent in London for three and one-half years, has left for Athens where he will form a Middle East reporting team with *Life* photographer Jim Whitmore.

Norman Ross, Education editor for *Life*, leaves New York to replace Burke in the London bureau.

Dita Camacho has left Paris to become chief researcher for *Life International*. David Shell of the New York *Life* staff has been assigned as correspondent in the Paris bureau.

Scot Leavitt, *Life* national affairs writer, has been assigned to Hongkong. He replaces Bill Pain who returns to the New York editorial staff.

Leonard S. Smith addressed the Wyoming Press Ass'n. Convention at Cheyenne.

The Overseas Press Bulletin is published weekly by The Overseas Press Club of America, Inc., 35 E. 39th St., New York 16, N. Y. Tel.: MU 6-1630.

John Wilhelm, Chairman, Bulletin Publication Committee

*Committee:* Dave Ballard, Gilbert E. Busch, Walter Davenport, Robert L. Dunne, Mary Hornaday, S. R. Kan, Larry LeSueur, Ruth Lloyd, Ralph H. Major, Paul Miller, Dave Murray, Larry Newman, Joseph Ruffner, William Ryan, Ben Wright.

*Editorial:* Issue Editor, David Murray.

*Advertising:* Gilbert E. Busch, Director; Kurt Lassen, Arthur G. Milton.

*Correspondents:* London, William Coughlin; Paris, Curt Heymann, Bernard Redmont; Bonn, Joseph Grigg; Berlin, Gerhard Stindt; Tokyo, Stuart Griffin; Moscow, Daniel Schorr, Whitman Bassow; Bangkok, Darrell Berrigan; Taipei, Geraldine Fitch; Manila, Don Huth; Caracas, Everett Bauman; Ottawa, Tania Daniell; Mexico City, Robert Benjamin; Washington, Jessie Stearns; Sao Paulo, Henry Bagley.

### Club Calendar

Tues., Feb. 12 — Open House — "Dickey" Chapelle, recently released from Hungarian prison, at cocktails. Richard Thomas, back from extensive tour of Soviet Union, at supper. Both addresses off-the-record. Cocktails, 6:00 p.m. Buffet supper, 8:00 p.m.

Thurs., Feb. 14 — Valentine's Day Luncheon in honor of Gov. and Mrs. Robert B. Meyner of New Jersey. 12:30 p.m. Members and guests. Reservations available now.

Tues., Feb. 19 — Regional Dinner: Belgium. Featuring Belgian Congo. Reception, 6:30 p.m. Dinner, 7:30 p.m. \$3.50. (Subscription Series No. 3 valid.)

## OPC MILESTONES

BORN: On Dec. 8, to Robert and Joan Sweeney, a daughter, Margaret Elizabeth (Beth), 8 lb., 2 oz. (He's with *Fortune* magazine).

MARRIED: Janet Laib, former beauty editor, *Seventeen* magazine, and Milton Angott, member of New York law firm of Angott and Kassel, on Jan. 31 in New York by Mr. Justice Matthew M. Levy of the New York State Supreme Court.

DIED: Howard Brubaker, satirist and short-story writer, on Feb. 2. He was best-known for his terse, witty paragraphs that appeared weekly in the *New Yorker* magazine for twenty six years. He was seventy-four years old.

DIED: William O. Varn, AP Washington staff for twenty-three years, on Feb. 3. He was forty-nine years old.

DIED: George E. Dumo, foreign news editor of the Washington bureau, INS on Jan 27. Fifty-four years old, he had covered Washington since the administration of Calvin Coolidge.

## THE BOARD



The Board of Governors adopted a by-law redefining the functions of the OPC's twenty-five active committees at its meeting Jan. 24.

The by-law, proposed by the Constitution Revision Committee under the chairmanship of John Luter, does not make any substantial change in operations of the existing committees but clarifies their activities and lines of responsibility.

The by-law also authorizes the appointment of a new committee which would concern itself with long-range planning.

On the recommendation of the Public Relations Committee, the Board approved the idea of a Club membership pin. The committee chairman is Murray Lewis.

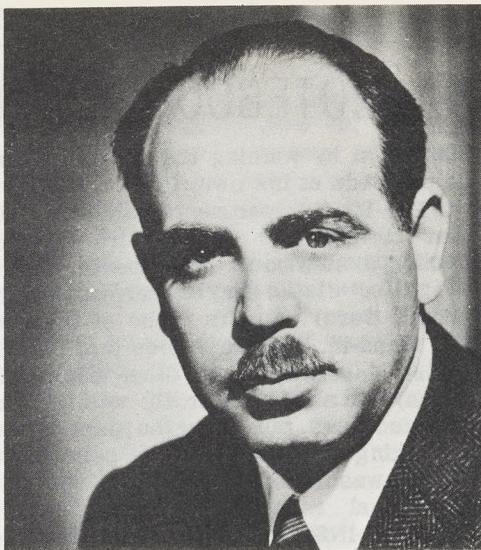
The Board approved the refurbishing of the Club Dining Room by an interior decorator at a meeting Jan. 31.

Closing of the Club on Washington's Birthday, Feb. 22, and Good Friday, April 19, was also approved.

The motion was made and carried that an insurance policy covering the Cloak Room on the first floor be purchased.

*Joe Quinn*, president of the Los Angeles Press Club, has been elected City News Service president to succeed Fletcher Bowren, former L.A. mayor. Quinn plans a tour of Army camps in Europe this Spring.

*Peter Maas*, former *Collier's* staffer, has an article, "Hock Shop Blues" in the current issue of *Esquire*.



HENRY SHAPIRO

## MOSCOW BEAT VETERAN ON U.S. LECTURE TOUR

Henry Shapiro, dean of Western correspondents in Moscow, is in the United States on a two-month vacation trip and lecture tour.

Having covered the Soviet Union "on and off" for twenty-two years, the UP bureau manager in Moscow told *The Bulletin* last week that the news coverage picture has gone through various phases in the years in which he has served in the Soviet Union.

Shapiro returned to New York last week from California where he lectured at the Town Hall in San Francisco and the Press Club in Los Angeles. His lecture schedule since his return to the United States at Christmas has included the UP Broadcasters Ass'n. in Minneapolis and the Nieman Foundation at Harvard University. Shapiro is a former Nieman Fellow.

He will speak before the American Bar Ass'n. Convention in Chicago on Feb. 16 and the council on Foreign Relations in Chicago on Feb. 19. He will return to Moscow via London and Paris the end of February.

## DATE-LINE WASHINGTON

The National Press Club plans to publish a book at the advent of the Club's 50th anniversary in 1958. The book, as now proposed, would trace the part the Club has taken in the making of history, chiefly through providing a forum for chiefs of state of many nations of the world, American statesmen, and other notable world figures.

The Women's National Press Club moved to suite 1204-6 in the National Press Building so to provide more accommodations to the growing membership. The majority of the 400 distaff members reside in Washington reporting to the World from the Nation's Capital.

Jessie Stearns

## Laurence Made Editor in N. Y. Times Changes

William L. Laurence, science reporter for *The New York Times* for twenty-six years, has been named science editor of *The Times*.

One of the top science writers in the country, he is known as "Atomic" Laurence because he was chosen by the U.S. Government to cover the story of the first atom bomb test at Los Alamos, N.M.

As science editor of *The Times*, Laurence will write editorials on scientific subjects, conduct the Sunday science column, and cover important news assignments.

Robert K. Plumb is replacing Laurence covering major scientific stories for the daily paper.

Other changes in *Times* personnel are the transfer of Tillman Durdin to the foreign staff. Durdin, who had been on the city desk in New York since he returned from Southeast Asia a year ago, left recently for North Africa. His headquarters is Algiers.

Durdin is replacing Michael Clark who is on six months' leave.

Tom Brady, who had been working with Clark in North and West Africa, is in London on temporary assignment to *The Times* bureau there.

Richard E. Mooney, formerly with the UP in Washington, recently joined *The Times* Washington staff. He replaces Charles Egan who resigned in December to take a job with the Motion Picture Ass'n. of America.

Clifton Daniel, assistant to foreign news editor E.R. Freedman since his return from Moscow a year ago, has been temporarily assigned to the city desk.

## REFUGEE ASSISTANCE ASKED

The following message has been sent to the OPC from Past President Louis P. Lochner in Vienna:

"In Vienna the other day I had an opportunity to get a glimpse of some of the thousands of Hungarian refugees who were milling around. When one has seen tragedy at first hand, one naturally feels impelled to want to do something about it."

"I have no hesitation in recommending that *The Bulletin* be made available to acquaint our readership with the possibility of helping the Children's Friendship Fund of Vienna to supply food and other things to Hungarian refugee children. In that expectation I enclose my own check for \$10.00."

Members' checks, made out to the Fund, may be mailed to the OPC Treasurer, for forwarding to the Fund.

## Vagaries of a Foreign Correspondent

# MORE FROM THE CHINA NOTEBOOK OF NORWOOD F. ALLMAN

by Norwood F. Allman

Readers will recall OPCer Norwood Allman's first article of reminiscences on the China scene which appeared in The Bulletin on Oct. 27, 1956. The following is a second selection of "notes" from his China Notebook.

Many correspondents run into adventures with the U.S. Department of State and have done so for a long time. A quick way to get into one of these hassles is to ask for a passport to an interdicted area or to visit an area outside the limits of a passport - witness the recent visit of three U.S. correspondents to Red China.

Nowadays the Overseas Press Club will come to the aid of the beleaguered correspondent, whereas in the old days he had to, and did, put up his own fight for the little green book when he wished to visit off-bounds areas.

A hot battle on this subject raged between 1937 and 1941 when Japanese-occupied China was interdicted. To get into China, one woman reporter stowed away in Yokohama on a Shanghai-bound ship. She evaded a police search (the search was at the request of an American Consul) by hiding under a gentleman's berth. This prompted the *China Press* in Shanghai, *nearly twenty years ago*, to editorialize:

"At one time a Roman traveller could say 'Civis Romanus Sum' and it might keep him out of jail at home or abroad, with or without a passport. Now the American citizen may land in his own jails if he travels outside the limits of his passport, no matter what he says.

### Passports a Right or Privilege?

"The issuance of U.S. passports involves a principle, which, aside from all emotion, will continue for a long time to raise heat and blood pressures. Our Secretary of State contends that passports are issued not as a right but as a privilege and at the discretion of the Secretary. Many Americans, including the writer, disagree with the Honorable Secretary and feel that passports should be issued to American citizens as a matter of right, assuming that his travel is for legitimate purposes as in most cases it will be.

"Obviously American Communists, sympathizers and their close kin, Nazi and Fascist spies, will abuse any such right but they can and will do this in any case by forgery. Is it reasonable to thwart and inconvenience the bona-fide traveller to get at these subversives in this manner? Why does not the Secretary issue the passport even if the applicant wants to go to hell, and exercise his

discretion by warning the applicant that he proceeds at his own risk?"

The State Department could point out that correspondents and jails are becoming synonymous. With the expansion of police states maybe correspondents should travel in pairs - one of them as jail stand-in. The story goes that the old *Japan Advertiser* (and other papers in Japan) had a jail editor. He was the guy who took the rap when the paper said something displeasing to the gendarmes, which was often. Maybe this story is apocryphal as neither Reuter's Jimmie Cox nor INS's Jimmy Young used the system. Jimmie Cox jumped out of a window in the gendarmerie headquarters to end the torture and Jimmy Young spent several unpleasant months in a gendarmerie jail.

### Jimmy Retaliates

Jimmy Young, of course, survived and retaliated by producing a book and movie entitled "Behind the Rising Sun." The American language press in China had good cause to remember Jimmy with affection. He and INS were the first to bring direct American news into China. The European agencies brought in tons of propaganda and prior to the Jimmy-INS invasion the only U.S. news was filtered in through Reuter's with heavy emphasis on rape, bank robbery and murder.

Contrary to popular editorial belief, not all stories from China were researched and written in the Palace or Cathay bars. Let Elsie McCormick (author of *Audacious Angles on China* and *Unexpurgated Diary of a Shanghai Baby*) tell about her interview with the seventy-seventh lineal descendant of Confucius:

"My editor dreamed up the idea of an interview with the Sage's seventy-seventh lineal descendant and said, 'Run up to Chufu and get an exclusive. It's only a few hundred miles as the Phoenix flies.' The editor ignored the fact that the Phoenix Line was discontinued four thousand years ago. However, all went well on the Blue Express to Taian and here I really started for 'back of beyond.'

### The Train

"A branch line with unventilated cars skirted Chufu since the local gentry did not consider it appropriate to disturb the Sage's sleep with any snorting 'fire carriage' when the railway was laid down. All the cars were filled with soldiers and even the baggage racks were occupied with bodies. They whiled away the time eating the garlic-flavored goodies.

"Staggering out of the garlic fumes at the end of the line I faced another transport problem. There were two varieties of local taxis to the Sage's

birthplace, viz. *Shentzu* - a sedan chair carried tandem between two mules, or a Peking Cart - a two-wheeled version of the covered wagon with iron-studded tires. There was delay, however, in getting under way. While I was negotiating for one of these instruments of torture, one of the drivers picked up my copy of *Vogue* and called a conference of the skirted and queued drivers to have a good laugh at the corset ads.

"Finally I chartered a Peking Cart and arrived so shaken up I had to spend one night on a stone bed in the local inn. Early the next morning I was taken to see the Duke with great to-do. Courtiers escorted me through vast rooms with dragon pillars, courtyards with arched bridges over little streams and through moon gates. After a short wait in the inner reception hall the Duke entered with his entourage.

"And now for the sad ending. The interview was not written. The Duke was all of two years old!"

Elsie also recalls that while the *China Press* forced our British contemporaries to adopt the American format, the "Limeys" corrupted us into adopting high tea at 4:00 p.m. Further, that by "olo custom" the cry "Whiskey Soda!" (meaning Scotch) could be heard at any time in the city room after 11:00 a.m.

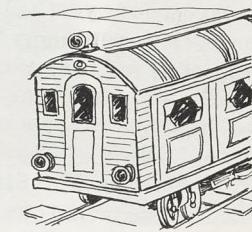
Such service could be had at the snap of a finger - from which the number one boy became a financier. All China papers had armies of office boys and the merest cub did not need to get off his chair all day for a pencil or a drink. Missing all this luxury was the hardest adjustment a newsman had to make after returning Stateside from a stint in Shanghai.

### Politeness in Thievery

He might also miss the politeness of the Chinese. *China Pressers* were not given to larceny but when it did occur it was performed with courtesy and finesse. At the end of the summer the *China Press* electric fans were wrapped up in paper and left in plain sight on shelves. Come one summer the bundles were pulled down to put the fans in operation but, lo and behold, a thief had substituted wooden blocks of about the same size and shape!

Now compare what happens in the OPC - someone walked off with two or three new typewriters and the cad did not even leave a card.

Other press clubs also have their



troubles. A reactionary board of governors of a club in the Far East passed a rule that women had to clear out of the residential quarters between 4:00 and 6:00 a.m. To show compliance, a number of members and their lady friends appeared in the lobby at 4:00 a.m. and promptly returned upstairs at 6:00 a.m. (Cribbed from the memoirs - circa 1967 - of ex-Time Lifer John Luter.)

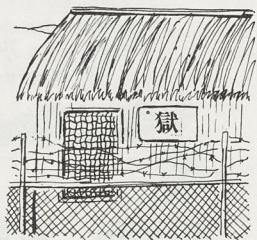
How do foreign correspondents find scoops? "Simple," says OPC President Wayne Richardson: "Be at the right spot at the right time; use ingenuity and don't get bumped off." He ought to know as he rode herd for two weeks on an exclusive - and this while on vacation!

Wayne had boarded the "Flying Arrow" in Hongkong in 1950 (where he was assigned for AP) for a home-leave trip via Shanghai and Tsingtao - despite the Nationalist blockade of the China coast. To emphasize the blockade a Nationalist gunboat just off the Yangtze mouth decided to pump dozens of shells at the "Flying Arrow" and set the ship on fire. Wayne, being the only newsman on board, beat it up to the wireless shack and started spilling a blow-by-blow account of the attack as it progressed.

The "Flying Arrow," with ten shell-holes, skipped Shanghai and went on to Tsingtao where Wayne almost became a jailbird and permanent guest of the Red Chinese. He got ashore masquerading as a crew member, using his ancient amateur radio operator's permit with some hastily contrived seals and endorsements. He was immediately spotted and followed by a girl shadower and her thick-lensed boy friend.

#### Escape

Despite this, Wayne managed to pick up material for the first and last detailed story on Tsingtao since the Red occupation. He forgot about the Tsingtao curfew, however, and was hauled in by the police on his way back to the ship. Fortunately, the police could not read English and the permit with all its phony seals did look official but what really saved him was his Russian taxi driver. The latter put up a successful plea to let this fat old grey-haired seaman go back to his ship. That is why Wayne is slaving in New York instead of one of Comrade Mao's labor camps. (End result: A pat from the AP and a George Polk Award for Wayne).



Irene Kuhn believes in training correspondents while they are young. She covered the first around-the-world flight of U.S. Army fliers in 1924 for the *China Press* in Shanghai. Assisting her was her tiny daughter, Rene (now Mrs. D.W.

Bryant), who was made Shanghai mascot of this dramatic flight - which was made literally in flying wheelbarrows.

However, the world moves on and children and aviation grow up. Although little Rene was exposed to expert teaching it did not take too well. She took a hard look at this foreign correspondent business and became an associate editor of *Life Magazine* and novelist (among her books are *Cornelia* and *34 Charlton* - which received the Hopwood Award) instead of working like her mother. Irene, however, continues faithful to the craft and last month covered for the Spadea Syndicate the grown-up flight of B-52 jet bombers around the U.S. and Canada via the North Pole.

In my previous article - in *The Bulletin*, I claimed that OPC Vice President Larry Blochman, had boycotted the Yangtze valley in his wanderings around the Far East. This drew the following indignant letter from Larry.

"I have burned angrily for weeks since your charmingly inaccurate piece about pre-historic days in journalistic China appeared in *The Bulletin*.

"Contrary to your implication, my sojourn in the Celestial Kingdom was not confined to North Szechuan in Shanghai and Ice House street in Hongkong. I can get an affidavit that I visited Bruno Shaw in Hankow and that I did some by-line stuff for the *China Press* - your paper - when I was advance man for the University of California Glee Club in 1920. I also worked on the *Far Eastern Review* for your friend, George Bronson Rea.

"Of course the *China Press* was not your baby in those days but seemed to be run by red-headed dipsomaniacs like Herby Webb, whom I believe died gloriously with glass in hand at the Savoy in Shanghai, and Charlie Hogue, an old UP man, whom later took the pledge and at last reports was fat, sassy and sober somewhere in Hawaii.

"Furthermore, my exclusive story for the *South China Morning Post* in Hongkong on the Communist influence behind the Hongkong strike of 1922 might have changed history if the State Department (not Acheson, Hughes) had paid any attention to the carbon copy I gave Consul General Huston in Canton. The story, by the way, was in an early OPC anthology. So cherio and *kam-bei!*"

Quite so, Larry, I was guilty of *lapsus mentis* (Latin confirmed by Hal Lehrman), or something. Incidentally, Rea's *Far Eastern Review* was the best technical journal in the Far East. Did you know that he was once challenged

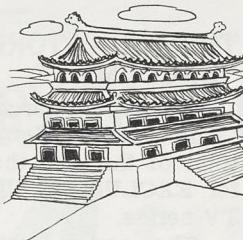
to a duel in Spain and on the advice of his seconds rejected the challenge on the grounds that the challenger was not really a gentleman and hence worthy of George's steel?

#### Justice for Miss Aldrich

Among other complaints about my last piece in *The Bulletin* was one from Pat Young, the youngest member of the OPC, of the *Anderson (S.C.) Daily Mail*. He says, along with the others, that justice was not done to Miss Lucy Aldrich who was held up by bandits on the Blue Express along with the late J.B. Powell and others.

As Pat says, Miss Aldrich was jokingly advised that if, during her trip in China, she should run into trouble, don't bother with any old American Consul (I was in the Consular Service and helped handle this case) but to yell for the SOCONY agent. When, seized, Miss Aldrich did call out, "Socony, Socony!" The bandits, however, had picked the only spot in China where there was no Socony agent. However, Miss Lucy and the other ladies were released after a few hours since they could not keep up with the forced march of the victims into the mountains.

Although the Chinese Government paid the bandits \$200,000. in American money as ransom, their kidnap-robery did not prove profitable. The bandits were all drafted into the Army and subsequently executed.



## DATELINE-TORONTO

Important stories are breaking regularly in Canada today. For the financial and economic background on news north of the border, Bache & Co.'s Toronto office can give you the facts you need. Other Bache offices or affiliates in the U.S., London, Paris, Geneva, and Mexico City can be equally useful. Experienced newsmen have long relied on our wire facilities and Public Relations Department for the right kind of help and information. Call on us at any time.

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## OVERSEAS TICKER (cont'd. from p. 1)

## BONN

Old Chancellor Konrad Adenauer is stepping up his meet-the-press activities at the age of 81.

Shortly before Christmas he started fortnightly news conferences which now are a regular feature of the Bonn scene. But his chief political opponent, Erich Ollenhauer, head of the Social Democrats, got busy recently and held one right after one of the Chancellor's get-togethers with the Press. It enabled him to answer some of Adenauer's remarks and, because he spoke only as party boss, he didn't have to pull his punches.

That stung the Old Man who announced he would start holding news conferences shortly in his capacity as Christian Democratic Party Chief. These, he said, would be in addition to the regular fortnightly session as head of the Government and he said he planned to speak more freely than he otherwise would.

With General Elections looming on the horizon next September, newsmen are wondering whether the two party bosses are going to goad each other into holding almost daily Press sessions.

After more than a year of tough negotiating the Foreign Press Ass'n. finally has worked out a tax arrangement with the West German government. Western newsmen here became liable to German taxes after the Occupation ended in May 1955. The agreement runs from Jan. 1, 1956, and is valid for four years. In effect, it means that most U.S. newsmen in West Germany will pay approximately the same taxes they would pay at home. The German rates, particularly on incomes above \$5,000. annually, are much higher.

The Bonn authorities agreed to make concessions because most foreign newsmen here have a lot of expenses that German newsmen don't have to shoulder. For example, in Bonn where all housing is controlled and allocated by the German Housing Ministry, there are two rental standards - one for Germans and one for foreigners. Some foreign newsmen pay one-third more rent than German colleagues with identical apartments.

The theory apparently is to soak the foreigner because he earns more. At least the German authorities recognized the reverse side of the coin when it came to fixing a tax arrangement.

Results of elections for the Foreign Press Ass'n. board for 1957 were: President, Fred Luchsinger, *Neue Zuercher Zeitung* (Swiss); Vice President Stephane Roussel, *France-Soir* (French); Secretary, Pierre Bourgeaux, AFP (French); Second Secretary, Bjoern Heimar, *Aftenposten* (Norwegian); Treasurer, Julius Hollos, *Financial Times* (British); Joseph W. Grigg, UP

(U.S.); Emlyn Williams, *Christian Science Monitor* (U.S.); Mogens Garfoed, *Berlingske Tidende* (Danish); and Branko Skrinjar, *Tanjug* (Yugoslav).

Joseph W. Grigg

## PARIS

Larry Collins, UP Paris staffer, hopping over to London for fortnight's assignment preparatory to transfer to UP Rome bureau.

Harvey Hudson, back at his AP Paris bureau post after Melbourne Olympics stint and a round-the-world vacation and home leave.

*George Herald* reports from the Montesi affair trial in Venice: "Ever heard of a courthouse beat where you go to work on a gondola every morning? Well, that's what I'm doing. Am here for a magazine piece on the Trial of the Century." Slightly exaggerated."

Quentin Reynolds and his wife in Paris after several weeks in Tangier; then off to London and back to New York.

Frank Kelley, N.Y. *Herald-Tribune*, flew to Britain to cover the Dr. Adams narcotics murder hearings.

Dmitri Kessel, *Life*, homeward bound and replaced by Howard Sochurek.

Bob Farrell, McGraw-Hill World News joining OPC.

Paul Winkler, Opera-Mundi Agency chief, hosted a Cafe de la Paix party to award the Opera-Mundi annual press tennis cup to Radio Monte Carlo's team.

Bernard S. Redmont

## THIRTEEN STORIES FOR "EXCLUSIVE"

The recent purchase of *John Wilhelm's* "The Littlest Sergeant," brought to a total of thirteen the original stories set for EXCLUSIVE! the OPC's forthcoming TV series.

The series includes to date: "The Czar's Daughter" by *George Herald*; "The Murder of George Polk" by *Helen Zotos*; "My Favorite Kidnapper" by *Pierre Huss*; "The Man Who Changed Faces" by *Bob Considine*; "The Millionth Frenchman" by *Lawrence G. Blochman*; "Santa Claus in a Jeep" by *Hal Lehrman*; "Unknown Man" by *B. Wierzbianski*; "Two Against the Kremlin" by *Eddy Gilmore*; "Father Tiger" by *Frederic Sontern, Jr.*; "The Monk of Chimay" by *Frank Jerome Riley*; "The Billion Franc Mystery" by *Morrill Cody*, and "The General's Present" by *Maurice Dekobra*.

Story editor Gene Feldman of Derel Producing Assoc. announced an urgent need for new material since at least thirty-nine stories will be filmed for EXCLUSIVE! Manuscripts and queries should be sent to Feldman at 68 William Street, New York 5, N.Y. (Bowling Green 9-1550). Manuscripts not yet returned to their authors are being held as possibles for future production.

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Spencer C. Valmy, Chairman

### People and Places (Cont'd from page 2)

basketball...Herbert L. Matthews, N.Y. Times, has been named to the administrative board of the Casa Italiana at Columbia. The Casa is the university's Italian club, a center of Italian intellectual life in this country. Matthews is a former Times correspondent in Italy... Dick Witkin, N.Y. Times aviation reporter, won the top award of \$200 in TWA's annual aviation writing competition.

Gilbert E. Busch leaves Feb. 12 for two weeks in California. He plans to visit the San Francisco and Los Angeles press clubs...Peter Buckley is back from five months in Spain, having taken some 10,000 photographs on bullfighting and been thrown by one bull. Simon and Shuster plans for fall publication *Bullfight*, words and pix by Buckley...Amy Vanderbilt flies Feb. 28 for five weeks in Spain and Portugal...Gerold Frank, senior editor of *Coronet*, has left for a month's work in Hollywood on his Diana Barrymore bio, *Too Much, Too Soon*, just purchased by Warner Bros.

Stephen E. Korsen was promoted to assistant director of public relations of Borden Co...Roberto Esquenazi-Mayo was guest speaker at the Cuban Press Club of N.Y.'s Ateneo Cubano, celebrating the 104th anniversary of Cuban journalist and patriot Jose Marti.

### DINNER COMMITTEE WANTS NAMES

Will members who wish invitations to the Annual Awards Dinner-Dance sent to friends please let the Invitations and Seating Sub-Committee have the names and addresses of these friends immediately.

Telephone calls concerning the Annual Dinner may be directed to Murray Hill 6-9576 or Murray Hill 6-9661 for one week.

Jessie Stearns, Washington, D.C., and Elizabeth Fagg have been added to the sub-committee.

### OPCers TO JUDGE LASKER AWARDS

Dr. Howard A. Rusk and Daniel D. Mich have been appointed judges for the 1956 Albert Lasker Medical Journalism Awards.

Rusk, associate editor of *The New York Times*, and Mich, editorial director of *Look* magazine, are on the five-man committee which will choose winners of three awards of \$2,000. each for "outstanding medical reporting."

Competition entries should be forwarded to the Albert and Mary Lasker Foundation, Chrysler Bldg., New York 17, not later than Feb. 11.

### AP NAMES FROST TO WARSAW

Colin Frost has been appointed AP correspondent in Warsaw. He has been in Poland for several months on special assignment from London.

Frost, a member of the AP London staff since 1950, went to Warsaw in 1955 to cover the conference at which the Soviet bloc military alliance was established. He returned to Poland in October, 1956, to report the Poznan riot trials and has continued in Warsaw since.

John J. Slocum, a Washington OPCer, has been sworn in by the U.S. Dep't. of State to serve as Coordinator of Public Affairs, Office of U.S. Commissioner General. Madeline D. Ross has been asked to serve as Assistant to the Coordinator of Public Affairs.

### Russell Burdsall & Ward

Bolt and Nut Company — a leading manufacturer of industrial fasteners—reports a three per cent dollar volume gain by the fastener industry in '56 over '55. The company foresees operations continuing at current rates at least through the first half of '57.

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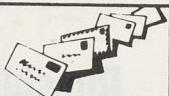
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# LETTERS



Dear Editor:

As a veteran of both the battles of the Sinai desert and the Israeli Public Information Office, I would like to set the record straight on some of the points raised by Eliav Simon in his report to *The Bulletin* on news problems in Israel during the recent war.

Eliav, a reporter whom I admire greatly, was probably too busy filing to notice that almost as soon as the guns started speaking in the Sinai, a spearhead of foreign correspondents arrived on the scene.

The men whom Eliav lists as having been on the scene when the trouble started are all local men regularly stationed in Israel (except for the *London Daily Express'* Don Wise who had arrived there a few months before the war).

But before the first bulletins were off the teletype, special correspondents from all over the world were making their way to the scene of action.

Rush instructions from INS' General Manager Kingsbury Smith sent this correspondent scurrying to Rome's Ciampino airport, where I met Arthur Veysey, *Chicago Tribune's* London chief, Claire Sterling, *Reporter*, and others. Magnificent cooperation from TWA got us a ride on the last American plane to fly into the flaring Middle East, and we did the last bit of our trip under jet-fighter escort.

All of us were on the scene - and filing - as the first air raid alert sounded over Tel Aviv, less than forty-eight hours after the war began.

What Eliav says about the lack of cooperation we received from Israeli authorities is unfortunately true.

It seems to be the lot of the present-day correspondent to spend half his time battling censors, press officers and other assorted bureaucrats.

But the record shows that on the Israel assignment, some of us were able to break through the "Red Tape Barrier" and get our story.

I won't reveal how we did this - in case we have to do it all over again.

But Winston Burdett, for example, managed to travel the forbidden Ismailia road all the way to the Suez Canal. He used a Tel Aviv taxi-cab and a man-sized portion of journalistic enterprise.

This correspondent was lucky enough to cross the Sinai desert several times, and in several directions. I managed to get as far as the Canal in order to report on the Anglo-French landing, was able to witness some of the fighting in the north of the desert, and made a number of trips south, as far as Sherm el Sheikh at the entrance to the gulf of Aqba.

On a separate expedition, it was my

fortune to be the first reporter to get to the forlorn St. Catherine's monastery, at the foot of the mountain that is believed to be Mt. Sinai.

There was adventure in many of these expeditions. Often, I was stopped by Israeli military authorities who wanted to turn me back. During the first days of the war, I had no time to get suitable clothes for the desert and embarked on my expeditions in the dark blue pin-striped suit in which I arrived. To see a pin-stripe suited man clutching a plastic water-bottle wandering on to the scene of an armored battle, for example, was a most disconcerting experience for some of the Israeli Military Policemen.

When one of them stopped me beyond Abu Agheila, where a great tank battle took place, and asked who I was, I simply leaned forward and whispered confidentially in French:

"Je suis ici comme observateur. - I am here as an observer."

Speechlessly, he waved me on.

When the battle for Gaza was shaping up, Arthur Veysey of the *Chicago Tribune*, Teddy Levite, star correspondent of Tel Aviv's *Maariv* and I made our way to the front. We rode in a 1945 DeSoto which had seen many happier days...as a New York taxi cab. We were turned back four times, twice by an officious Lieutenant Mendelsohn who claimed he had been sent down by Israeli army headquarters specifically to keep correspondents at bay.

At one point he ordered a soldier to stick his submachine gun into my stomach and march me off to a lock-up.

We managed to escape - although my stomach has not felt the same ever since.

As to David Landor, Lionel Pytan and the men of the Israeli P.I.O., as well as Col. Nehemia Brosh and his staff of the army press office, I don't think we should judge them too harshly.

I think Eliav Simon is right in assuming that the "anti-press policy" came from higher up, particularly from some of the army brass.

I also believe that Eliav's report will do a lot of good in causing an "agonizing reappraisal" of Israel's treatment of foreign correspondents.

But on the whole, I think that we did not fare much worse than our colleagues covering the other fronts of the Middle East adventure.

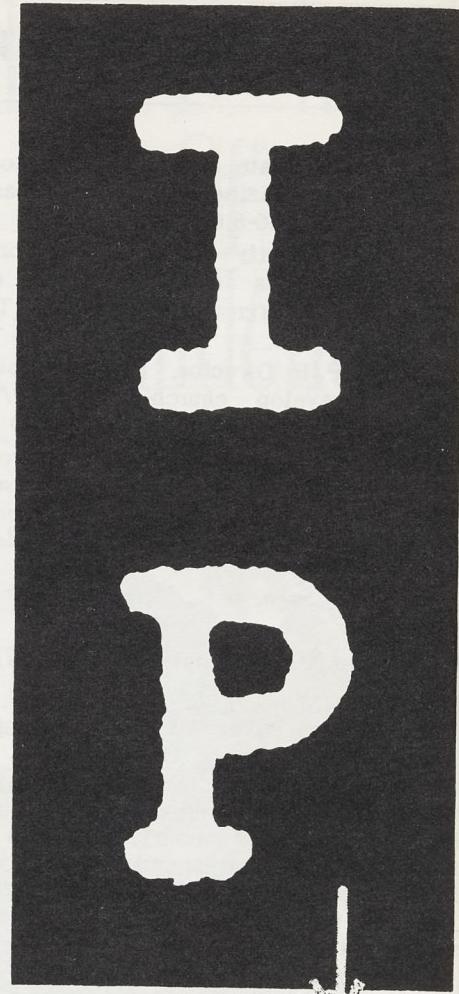
The moral of all this: Keep your typewriter ribbon dry, try to wear a pin-stripe suit when covering wars in the desert, and when you see a Press Officer - duck!

Serge Fliegers

*Editor*

*Inter-Continental Press  
and Express Newspapers*

Bill Ryan, NBC News, is currently writing, voicing and making occasional news pictures for WRCA-TV's "Today." program.



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